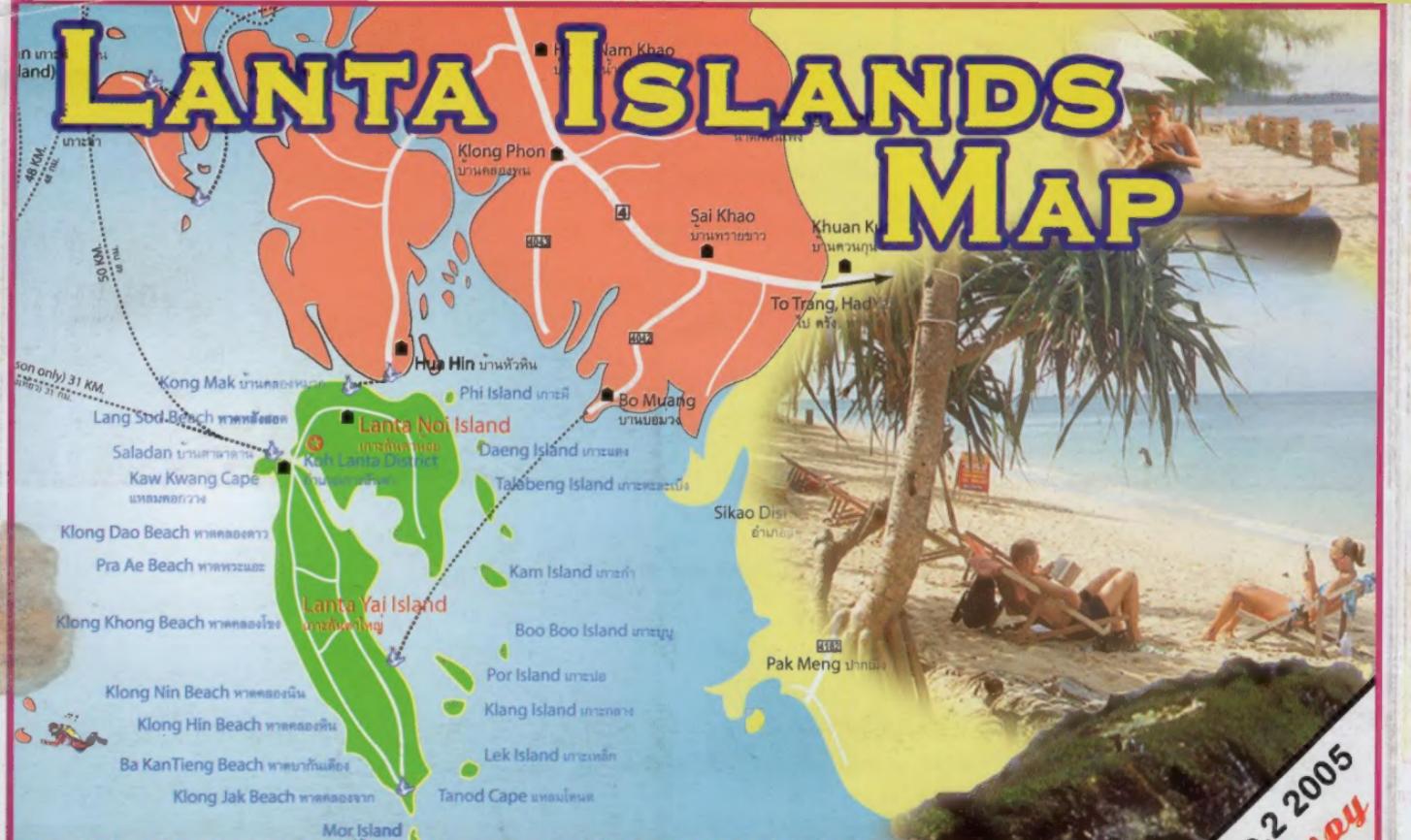


LANTA ISLANDS MAP



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LANTA ISLANDS MAP

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KRABI - KOI

Cost is 200 baht per daily November

DEPART

10:30

13:30

The ferry stop

The Andaman Adventure Begins Here

Scandinavian
dive
Koh Lanta

5 star IDC center

Day trips & Live Aboards

Air conditioned classrooms & Swimming Pool

PADI Courses from Beginner to Instructor

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Full range retail & equipment service

VIVA

Italian Cuisine
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Takeaway

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- Daily Tour to Ko Rok, Ko Ngai, Ko Muk, Ko Kradan, Ko Phi Phi
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Tel & Fax: 86-75-684-386, 86-75-684-393 Mobile: 09-7241406
E-mail: pp_lantatravel@yahoo.com

SEE MAP 4/C4

SEE MAP 4/B1

KRABI - KOH LANTA

KOH LANTA - KRABI

Cost is 200 baht per person, children under 12 half price. Operates daily November through April (exact start/stop dates vary)

DEPART	ARRIVE	DEPART	ARRIVE
10:30	12:00	08:00	12:00
13:30	15:00	13:00	15:00

The ferry stops briefly at sea near Ko Jum to transfer passengers to that island

Scandinavian
Lanta diner
Koh Lanta

5 star IDC center



Full range retail & equipment service

SEE MAP 4/B4

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Tel: 0-7563-0517

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Small Boutique Hotel, Café-Bar & Bistro opened in 2004 to cater for discerning travellers.

Café Pourquoi Downunder features 2 suits, 4 double rooms & is situated opposite the beach in Ao Nang.

Please visit our web-site cafe-pourquoi.com or call us on 075 637 588 for further information (Advance reservations advisable in high & peak seasons)

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SEE MAP 4/B4

Lanta Sand Resort

ess come from every corner of the Lanta Sand Resort.



Andaman Lanta Resort located on Klong Dao Beach, one of the most beautiful beaches in Thailand.

Andaman Lanta Res

KLONG DAO BEACH • KOH LANTA • KRA

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SEE MAP 4/B4

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Mobile: (66) 8 99666600

SEE MAP 4/C4

H LANTA KOH LANTA - KRABI

er person, children under 12 half price. Operates
er through April (exact start/stop dates vary)

ARRIVE	DEPART	ARRIVE
12:00	08:00	12:00
15:00	13:00	15:00

os briefly at sea near Ko Jum to transfer
passengers to that island

A Krabi Town
ay Service

10.00 - 23.00
izzeria - Bar
81000 Thailand.
town.com
-0517

Café Pourquoi Downunder



Small Boutique Hotel,
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to cater for
discerning travellers.

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Downunder features
2 suits, 4 double
rooms & is situated
opposite the beach
in Ao Nang.

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Downunder

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for further
information
(Advance reservations
advisable in high
& peak seasons)

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Hadnoppattara Road
Ao Nang, Krabi 81000



In Klong Dao Beach, one of

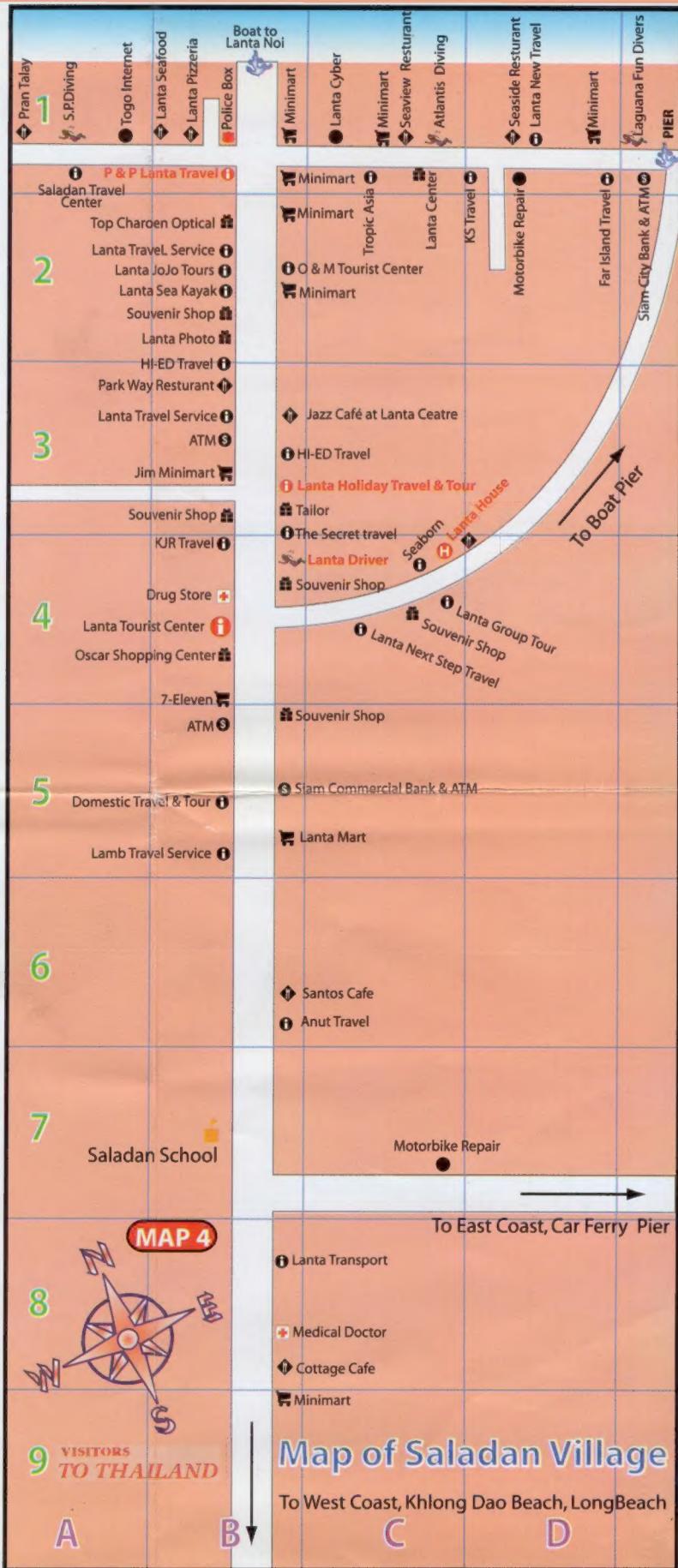
Andaman Lanta Resort

KLONG DAO BEACH • KOH LANTA • KRABI



142 Moo 3, Klong Dao Beach,

P & P Lanta Travel



MAP 4

1 Pran Talay S.P.Diving Togo Internet Lanta Seafood Lanta Pizzeria Boat to Lanta Noi Police Box Minimart Lanta Cyber Minimart Seaview Restaurant Atlantis Diving Minimart Seaside Restaurant Lanta New Travel Minimart Laguna Fun Divers PIER

2 P & P Lanta Travel Saladan Travel Center Top Charoen Optical Lanta Travel Service Lanta JoJo Tours Lanta Sea Kayak Souvenir Shop Lanta Photo HI-ED Travel Park Way Restaurant Lanta Travel Service ATM Jim Minimart Souvenir Shop KJR Travel Drug Store Lanta Tourist Center Oscar Shopping Center 7-Eleven ATM Domestic Travel & Tour Lamb Travel Service Santos Cafe Anut Travel Saladan School Motorbike Repair To East Coast, Car Ferry Pier

3 Jazz Café at Lanta Centre HI-ED Travel Lanta Holiday Travel & Tour Tailor The Secret travel Lanta Driver Souvenir Shop Lanta Group Tour Souvenir Shop Lanta Next Step Travel

4 Lanta Mart Santos Cafe Anut Travel Motorbike Repair

5 Lanta Transport Medical Doctor Cottage Cafe Minimart

6 Santos Cafe Anut Travel

7 Saladan School Motorbike Repair

8 MAP 4

9 VISITORS TO THAILAND A B C D

Map of Saladan Village

To West Coast, Khlong Dao Beach, Long Beach

Lanta Holiday Travel & Tour

Tourist information Center

Boat, Bus, Plane, Train Ticket Agent
Lanta to Krabi, Lanta to Ao-Nang,
Lanta to Railay, Lanta to Koh Phi Phi,
Lanta to Phuket, Lanta to Suratthani,
Lanta to Koh Samui, Lanta to Phang-nga
Lanta to Koh Tao
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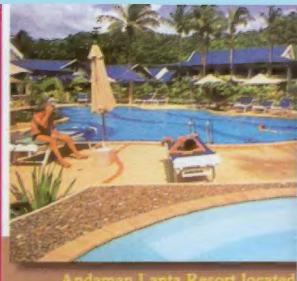
From Oversea Tel: (66) 2267 1536-7, 2233 9136, 2234 1405

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Lanta Sand Resort.*279 M.3 Long Beach, Saladan, Koh Lanta, Krabi, Thailand 81150
Tel: 0-7568-4633-4, 0-9724-2682 Fax: 0-7568-4636

SEE MAP 3 / B1



Andaman Lanta Resort located
the most beautiful beach on Koh Lanta.
We offer several different room
so luxury bungalows which full of all
hot-cold shower that can be connected
families.

Our Restaurant is open for
fresh seafood nightly at BBQ Corner.



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Lanta Sand Resort & Spa.*



Leelasadee Spa
Relaxation of your body and mind

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Krabi, Thailand 81150
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SEE MAP 3 / B2

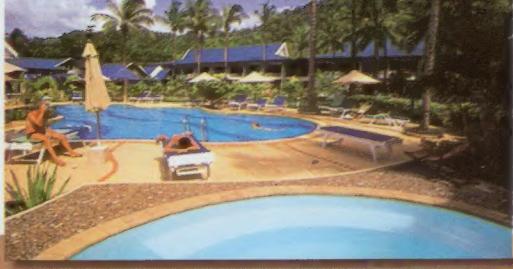


ppiness come from every corner of the
Lanta Sand Resort.



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Tel: 0-7568-4633-4, 0-9724-2682 Fax: 0-7568-4636

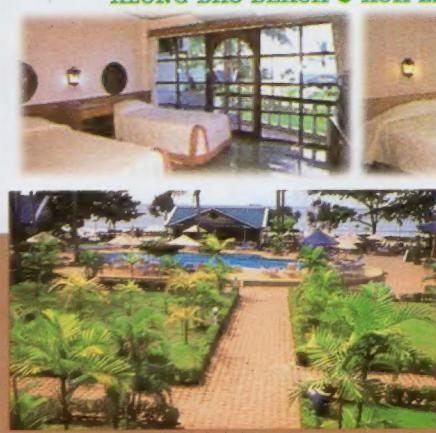
SEE MAP 3/B1



Andaman Lanta Resort located on Klong Dan Beach, one of the most beautiful beach on Koh Lanta Yai, Krabi.

We offer several different rooms from our 2-storey building to luxury bungalows which full of all facilities : air-con, TV, fridge, hot-cold shower that can be connected and offer the ideal choice for families.

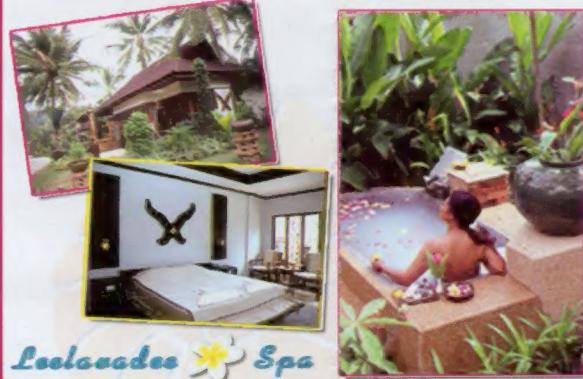
Our Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy fresh seafood nightly at BBQ Corner.



142 Moo 3,
Koh Lanta,
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Fax: (66) 0-7568-4636
E-mail: andamanlanta@k2.com
www.andamanlanta.com

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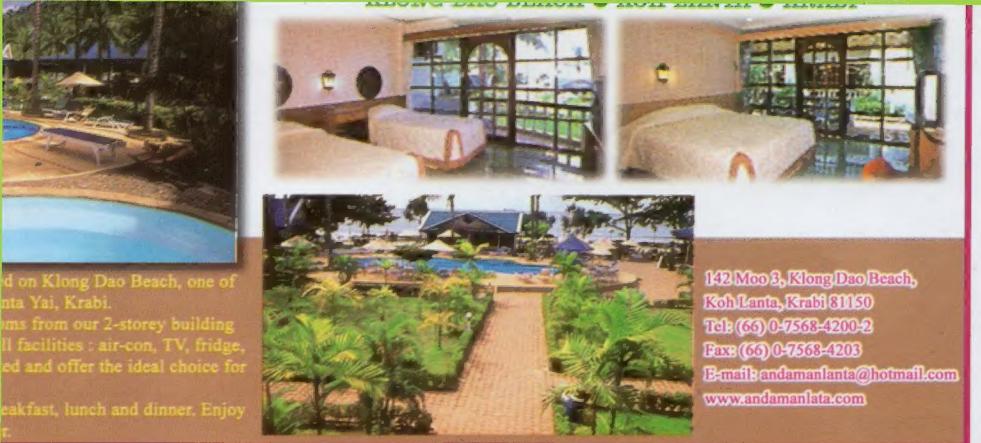
SEE MAP 3/B2

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FRESH SEAFOOD DAILY
BEST VIEW OF AO NANG

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on Klong Dao Beach, one of
Klong Dao Beach, one of
anta Yai, Krabi.
oms from our 2-storey building
ll facilities : air-con, TV, fridge,
ed and offer the ideal choice for
breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy
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www.andamanlanta.com

SEE MAP 2 / D8



Boat, Bus, Plane, Train Ticket Agent
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Lanta to Railay, Lanta to Koh Phi Phi,
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Lanta to Koh Samui, Lanta to Phang-nga
Lanta to Koh Tao
Bangkok, Singapore, Malaysia, Penang,
Kuala Lumpur etc.

Accommodation Center

in Krabi - Ao-Nang, Railay, Koh Phi Phi,
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include transfer round trip



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SEE MAP 4 / B3

USEFUL NUMBERS ON KOH LANTA & KRABI

Emergency Call (24 hours)

191 & 1699

Tourist Information Office,

0-7562-2163-4

Tourist Police Office

0-7569-1940

Thai Airways office

0-7569-1942

P.B. Air

0-7563-6541

Krabi Airport

0-7561-2220

Chamber of Commerce

0-7561-1350

Customs Office

0-7561-1111

Fire Brigade

0-7561-1097

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0-7561-1222

Provincial Police Station

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Police Station Lanta

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hot & cold showers, cable T.V.,
minibar, hair-dryer. Location in the
center of Patong Beach, nearby
shopping and entertainment areas.

Lanta Pavilion Resort

Koh Lanta - Krabi - Thailand



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E-mail: lantaholiday@hotmail.com

19 bungalows set in coconut plantation, every bungalow with private terrace facing the sea, satellite TV & UBC Channel, hot & cold shower, refrigerator, air - condition & fan rooms with twin beds & double beds.

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SEE MAP 1/C4

Rules and Regulations on Koh Lanta

When taking a trip to a national park, there are rules and regulations that every conscientious tourist must observe in order to maintain this public area sustainably forever. They are

- Do not collect anything but rubbish.
- Do not make loud noises, which disturbs other people and wildlife.
- Do not hunt, destroy, or do anything that harms plants, animals, and the environment.
- Do realize the significance of nature, in that everybody must share and learn to preserve it for ourselves and others.

Kaw Kwang Cape
หาดมดกว้าง

Klong Dao Beach
หาดคลองดาว

Pra Ae Beach
หาดพระแยะ

Klong Khong Beach
หาดคลองโง้ง

Kaw Kwang Beach
หาดคอกวาง

Saladan School
โรงเรียนศาลา丹

Sala Dan Pier
น่านศาลาดาน

Costa Lanta
Twin Lotus Resort & Spa
Sun Fun & Sea Bungalow
Golden Bay Cottage
Diamond Sand Palace
Southern Lanta Resort
Lanta Villa
Lanta Island Sea House
Andaman Lanta Resort
Holiday Villa

Lanta Sand Resort
Lanta Sand Resort & Spa
Lanta Palm Beach Resort
Lanta Pearl Beach
Lanta Dusit Resort
Lanta Long Beach Resort
Rayana Resort
Lanta City Beach Resort
Gooddays Lanta Chalet

Blue Andaman Lanta Resort
Last Horizon

Where Else Resort
Somewhere else Resort
Lanta Pavilion Resort
Lanta New Coconut
Lanta Family Resort

Moonlight Bay Resort

Lanta Palace Resort

LANTA ISLAND

Lanta Yai Isl
เกาะลันตาใหญ่

Tung Yee Pheng Village

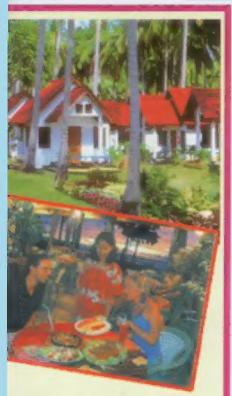
Pra Ae Village
บ้านพระแยะ

Klong Khong Village
บ้านคลองโง้ง

View Point

Je Lee Village

Klong Nin School



every bungalow with
TV & UBC Channel,
condition & fan rooms
beds.

SEE MAP 1 / C4

Rules and Regulations on Koh Lanta

When taking a trip to a national park, there are rules and regulations that every conscientious tourist must observe in order to maintain this public area sustainably forever. They are

- Do not collect anything but rubbish.
- Do not make loud noises, which disturbs other people and wildlife.
- Do not hunt, destroy, or do anything that harms plants, animals, and the environment.
- Do realize the significance of nature, in that everybody must share and learn to preserve it for ourselves and others.

Where you'll never forget the scenery and unspoiled nature.

Krabi Resort : 232 Moo 2, Tambol
Bangkok Office : 1st Fl. Hollywo
Tel: 0-2208-916

LANTA ISLANDS MAP

KOH LANTA
(LANTA ISLAND)

ala Dan Pier
บ้านศาลาด่าน



Lanta Yai Island เกาะลันตาใหญ่



Koh Lanta is situated in the southern Krabi Province, approximately 70 kilometers. It stretches for 27 kilometers in the north direction along the western coastline of in southern Thailand. The geography of typically mangroves; coral rimmed beaches covered hills.

Koh Lanta consists of 52 islands of which control of the Koh Lanta National Marine islands are inhabited, among those, four : Koh Klang, Koh Bubu, Koh Lanta Yai, and Koh Lanta Noi. The two major islands: Lanta Yai and Lanta Yai is the siege of district's headqu biggest island, covered with mountainous areas. This Island is the trading center an point of transportation to beaches and Islands. On the western coastline, the beach and idyllic bays lie from north towards the south of them are gravelly and others have the sand. On the east side, the coast is graced by the sandy beaches together with the fertilizer. Also, there locates the settlement of sea gulls still live their life in traditional style and their customs and culture. Most of population of the Island is Muslims. In the southern part of the island there locates the office of the Koh Lanta National Park.

Lanta Noi used to be a community of Islam in the old days. The old life style and traditional houses can still be seen in this island, offering a charming atmosphere.

Tourist Attractions Around the Island

Kor Kwang Beach

The beach is well-known for its nicely curved shape and its desertedness. Its aquamarine water together with the finest sand offers you the real sentiment of relaxation.

Klong Dao

Klong Dao is a two-kilometers-stretch beach is straightly lined with casual and dazzling sand, tepid and translucent water and panoramic view. This is then a great place for relaxation.

Pra Ae Beach or Long Beach

Lying on the northern end of the Island is famed for its fine powdery sand and shell. Accommodations are affordable and delicious and abundant.

Klong Khong

Klong Khong Beach offers extremely serene atmosphere. With its small size limited; however, there are plenty of coral providing an excellent opportunity for diving.

Klong Nin

Klong Nin Beach offers tranquil atmosphere; its sand is white and fine. It is a place where you need a real secluded and relaxing.

Ba Kantiang

Ba Kantiang beach is one of the most beautiful beaches of the island. The sparkling sand and aquamarine water will retain you for long. You will never want to go anywhere else. There is a small shop nearby.

Where you'll never forget the scenery
and unspoiled nature.

Krabi Resort

KRABI - THAILAND

Krabi' leading beach resort since 1982



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Tel: 0-2208-9165, 0-2208-9570, 0-2208-9710 Fax: 0-2208-9166

IDS MAP

KOH LANTA (LANTA ISLAND)

Koh Lanta is situated in the southernmost district of Krabi Province, approximately 70 kilometers from Krabi. It stretches for 27 kilometers in the north to south direction along the western coastline of Andaman Sea in southern Thailand. The geography of the island is typically mangroves; coral rimmed beaches; and rugged tree covered hills.

Koh Lanta consists of 52 islands of which 15 are under control of the Koh Lanta National Marine Park. Twelve islands are inhabited, among those, four are accessible: Koh Klang, Koh Babu, Koh Lanta Yai, and Koh Lanta Noi. The two major islands: Lanta Yai and Lanta Noi.

Lanta Yai is the siege of district's headquarter and the biggest island, covered with mountainous and rugged areas. This island is the trading center and the starting point of transportation to beaches and other nearby islands. On the western coastline, the beautiful beaches and idyllic bays lie from north towards the south; some of them are gravelly and others have the fine sand. On the east side, the coast is graced by the stunning white sandy beaches together with the fertile mangroves. Also, there locates the settlement of sea gypsies who still live their life in traditional style and preserve well their customs and culture. Most of population on Lanta Island is Muslims. In the southern part of the island, there locates the office of the Koh Lanta National Marine Park.

Lanta Noi used to be a community of local people in the old days. The old life style and traditional-styled-houses can still be seen in this island, offering somewhat charming atmosphere.

Tourist Attractions Around the Island

Kor Kwang Beach

The beach is well-known for its nicely curved shape and its desertedness. Its aquamarine water together with its finest sand offers you the real sentiment of relaxation.

Klong Dao

Klong Dao is a two-kilometers-stretch of sand. The beach is straightly lined with casuarinas, offering dazzling sand, tepid and translucent water as well as the panoramic view. This is then a great place for isolation and relaxation.

Pra Ae Beach or Long Beach

Lying on the northern end of the island, the beach is famed for its fine powdery sand and shelving coastline. Accommodations are affordable and the food is delicious and abundant.

Klong Khong

Klong Khong Beach offers extremely peaceful and serene atmosphere. With its small size, the sand is limited; however, there are plenty of coral reefs offshore providing an excellent opportunity for diving.

Klong Nin

Klong Nin Beach offers tranquil and peaceful atmosphere; its sand is white and fine. It be a place for you who need a real secluded and relaxing paradise.

Ba Kantiang

Ba Kantiang beach is one of the most beautiful beaches of the island. The sparkling sand and iridescent aquamarine water will retain you for long time that you will never want to go anywhere else. There are excellent

Boo Boo Island
บูบู อายุ



Por Island

Background of Lanta Archipelago



Lanta Archipelago, Lanta District, Krabi Province, was designated the 62nd national park of Thailand in August 1990, and covers an area of 134 km² (83,750 Rai), 81% of which is marine. Located in the Andaman Sea, the park consists of several groups of islands such as those of Koh Rok, Koh Ngai, Koh Har (Tukonlima) and Koh Lanta.

Steep cliffs with small patches of interspersed flatland dominate Koh Lanta. The area is blessed with a high biodiversity due to coral reef. It also has many beautiful natural-wonders. For these reasons, many tourists come to visit every year.



Travel information

Take Highway No. 4 from Bangkok to Krabi. Continuing towards Trang, turn right onto Route 4206 at Km. 64 to Baan Hua Hin. A car-ferry will take you to Koh Lanta nou and Koh Lanta Yai respectively. Some areas are very steep, unsuitable for a saloon car.

To Visit Koh Nagi, Koh Rok, Koh har and Hin Muang-Hin Daeng hire a Boat from Sala Dan Pier (on Koh Lanta Yai) ar Had Pak Meng, Sikao District, Trang Province. To get there, turn right (south) off Highway no. 4 onto Route 4046 to Sikao from there, 10 kms. along Route 4162 will bring you to Had Pak Meng. Koh Har and Hin



Muang-Hin Daeng can be reached on an organized scuba-



Klong Khong Beach

หาดคลองโขง

Klong Nin Beach

หาดคลองนิน

Klong Hin Beach

หาดคลองhin

Somewhere Else
Lanta Pavilion Resort
Lanta New Coconut
Lanta Family Resort

Moonlight Bay Resort

Lanta Palace Resort

Lanta Nice Beach Resort

Lanta Nature Beach Resort

Lanta Paradise Bungalows

View Point

Je Lee Village

Klong Nin Village

บ้านคลองนิน

Khao Mai
Kaew Cave

Tham Sue Cave

Sri Lanta

The Narima
Dream Team Bungalows

Police Station

Klong Hin Village

บ้านคลองhin

Lanta Hospital

Lanta Marine Park View Resort
Isawan Lanta Resort & Spa

Kantiang Bay Resort

Pimalai Resort & Spa

Same Same But Different

Sang Ga UV
(Sea Gypsy V)

Waterfall Bay Beach Resort
Lanta Sunmoon Bungalows
Bamboo Bay Resort
Lanta Beach Resort

Klong Jak Beach

หาดคลองจาก

Light House

National

MAP 1



**VISITORS
TO THAILAND**

A

B

C

D

Tourist Attractions on Koh Lanta (Lanta Island) and Beyond

Koh Ngai (Ngai Island) has a long white-powdered sandy beach with a shallow-water coral reef in front. There is a bungalow, resorts and restaurants here.



Koh Rok (Rok Island) consists of 2 islands which are

Koh Rok Nai (Rok Nai Island)

To the east, there is a sandy beach and snorkeling site. To the west, there are rocky outcrops and a scuba diving site. To the south, there is an old Siam (Thailand) boundary marker believed to have been set during the period of King Rama V.

Koh Rok Nok (Rok Nok Island)

Interesting attractions are Haad Ta-Lu (Ta-Lu Beach), a white-powdered horseshoe-shaped sandy beach, and Ao Maan Sai (Maan Sai Bay), a long beach with a shallow-water coral reef. There is also a campsite, 1.5 km. nature trail and Lor Tor 1 (Koh Rok) substation.

Koh Har (Tukonlima) (Har Island) is a group of 5 gorgeous yet strange islands. On Koh Har Yai (Har Yai Island), is fresh green grassland with a beautiful coral reef surrounding the island, as the Whale Shark can often be seen here, another popular diving destination for both Thais and foreigners.



Hin Muang – Hin Daeng (Purple Rocks – Red Rocks Island)

Both are famed scenic scuba diving sites. The pinnacle of Hin Daeng Rocks can only be seen at low tide. The sites are well known among divers throughout the world, as the Whale shark and Manta Ray can often be seen here.

Nature Trail

The park has developed a 2.5 km. nature trail along the sea cliff that passes through evergreen forest to reach a viewpoint. The aim of the trail is to bring visitors closer

to nature and encourage them to learn more about the interesting ecosystems around them, as well as to take in the panoramic view of Leam Ta-Nod (Ta-Nod Cape) from the high viewpoint.

source: MARINE NATIONAL PARK DIVISION
ROYAL FOREST DEPARTMENT





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Do & Don't in Thailand

The Monarchy : Thai people have a deep, traditional reverence for the Royal Family, and a visitor should be careful to show respect for the King, Queen and the Royal Children.

Religion : Visitors should dress neatly in all religious shrines. They should never go topless, or in shorts, hot pants or other unsuitable attire. It is acceptable to wear shoes when walking around the compound of a Buddhist temple, but not inside the chapel where the principal Buddha image is kept.

Each Buddha image, large or small, ruined or not, is regarded as a sacred object. Never climb onto one to take a photograph or do anything which might indicate a lack of respect. Buddhist monks are forbidden to touch or be touched by a woman, or to accept anything from the hand of one. If a woman has anything to a monk, she first hands it to a man, who then presents it.

Social Norms :

Thais don't normally shake hands when they greet one another; instead press the palms together in a prayer-like gesture called a wai. Generally, the younger person waits an elder, who returns it.

Thais regard the head as the highest part of the body, literally and figuratively. Therefore, avoid touching people on the head and try not to touch your feet at people or an object. It is considered very rude.

Shoes should be removed when entering a private Thai home.

serene atmosphere. While it's limited; however, there are plenty of opportunities for an excellent opportunity.

Klong Nin

Klong Nin Beach offers a serene atmosphere; its sand is white and you who need a real secluded area.

Ba Kantiang

Ba Kantiang beach is one of the best beaches of the island. The sparkling aquamarine water will retain you here. You will never want to go anywhere else for corals for snorkeling as well.

Klong Jark Beach

This is the southernmost beach with average beauty by most standards. Its solitude and tranquility, making it a great place to relax. The nearby deserted beach like Ba Kantiang Park are also the good secluded areas for waterfalls in the surrounding areas or self-trekking.

Khao Mai Kaew Cave

A couple of caves are located in the limestone offering a wonder of rocks and stalactites and stalagmites. The cave create a cavern pool that is perfect for swimming. To explore the cave, a guide is needed. The guide lives near the trailhead to the cave for 50 Baht per person. The cave is reached via two cross-island roads, down a dirt path through the rubber plantation to the Muslim home.

Sea-Gypsy Village

The large community of sea-gypsies is located in the village of Ban Sangka-Ou on the west side of the island. Sea gypsies are called in English "Sea Gypsies" or "Sea Nomads", and are known as the minority group in Thailand, meaning new Thai People. Originally, they were living in the sea and feared as pirates. Nowadays, as they have been granted citizenship in Thailand, they live on the coast in their stilt-built houses. They depend on the water level of high and low tide for fishing, catching lobsters, and collecting bird's nests for the Chinese market. They have close relation to other villages, and integrate into the Thai population. Their language, traditions and ceremonies are still very much influenced by their supernatural and traditional beliefs. These are very influential in the community as in the ceremony "Loy-Rua" (Floating Boat). They build a symbolic boat and place themselves in it along with popped rice. By performing this ceremony, they ask for forgiveness from the sea gods and thank them for what they have made to the sea. It is believed that the boat will sail away in the symbolic boat. Visit this worthwhile experience.

ROYAL EXCLUSIVE TRAVEL CO., LTD.
No. 21, Silom Road (Near Dusit Thani Hotel)
Bangkok 10500, Thailand
TEL: (66) 2267-1536-7, 2267-1538-9
FAX: (66) 2236-0233 or (66) 223...



serene atmosphere, with its small size, the sand is limited; however, there are plenty of coral reefs offshore providing an excellent opportunity for diving.

Klong Nin

Klong Nin Beach offers tranquil and peaceful atmosphere; its sand is white and fine. It be a place for you who need a real secluded and relaxing paradise.

Ba Kantiang

Ba Kantiang beach is one of the most beautiful beaches of the island. The sparkling sand and iridescent aquamarine water will retain you for long time that you will never want to go anywhere else. There are excellent corals for snorkeling as well.

Klong Jark Beach

This is the southernmost beach on Lanta. Despite its average beauty by most standards, the beach offers its solitude and tranquility, making it a good place to stay. The nearby deserted beach like Mai Pai and the National Park are also the good secluded places. You can go to waterfall in the surrounding area by elephant trekking or self trekking.

Khao Mai Kaew Cave

A couple of caves are located in the center of the island, offering a wonder of rocks and caverns and housing the spectacular stalactites and stalagmites. Some sections in the cave create a cavern pool that you can swim in. To explore the cave, a guide is needed; a Muslim family who lives near the trailhead to the cave offers guide service for 50 Baht per person. The cave is located off the lower of two cross-island roads, down a narrow 1.5 kilometer-dirt path through the rubber plantation that ends up at the Muslim home.

Sea-Gypsy Village

The large community of sea-gypsies is settled in the Village of Ban Sangkhao-Ou on the southern tip of the Island. Sea gypsies are called in Thai as Chao Le or Chao Nam, and are known as the minority group of "Thai Mai", meaning new Thai People. Originally, the sea gypsies of former centuries were living in their boats and were feared as pirates. Nowadays, as being considered eligible for citizenship in Thailand, they began to settle along the coast in their stilt-built houses erected between the water level of high and low tide. They earn their living on fishing, catching lobster, and other sea foods as well as collecting bird's nest for the Chinese cuisine. Despite the close relation to other villages, the sea gypsies do not integrate into Thai population. They still retain their own language, traditions and ceremonies. Their belief in supernatural and traditional spiritual worship is still influential in the community as seen in their traditional ceremony "Loy-Rua (Floating Boat)". The village men will build a symbolic boat and place wooden statues of themselves in it along with nail pairings, hair and popped rice. By performing this ritual, they ask for forgiveness from the sea gods and for any offences they have made to the sea. It is believed that all evil is carried away in the symbolic boat. Visiting their village is thus a worthwhile experience.

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TEL: (66) 2267-1536-7, 2267-1534, 2234-1405, 2233-9136
FAX: (66) 2236-0233 or (66) 2233-2131

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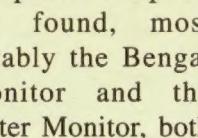
Meng, Sikao District, Trang Province. To get there, turn right (south) off Highway no. 4 onto Route 4046 to Sikao from there, 10 kms. along Route 4162 will bring you to Had Pak Meng. Koh Har and Hin

Muang-Hin Daeng can be reached on an organized scuba-diving boat trip.

Ecology



Since the physical topography of the area is highly varied, with mountains, cave, streams, beaches, and sea, it supports several types of forest, i.e. evergreen forests on southern Koh Lanta Yai and on Koh Ngai, limestone mountain forest on Koh Rok and Koh Har, beach forest on the beaches of all islands, mangrove forest, and grassland. Most of the islands are not that large and as such only smaller mammals are found, such as Wild Boar, Dusky Langur, mouse deer, Indian civet, and squirrel. Several species of reptiles



are found, most notably the Bengal Monitor and the Water Monitor, both of which can easily be seen. There are also over a hundred species of resident and migrant birds.

The marine resources seen here are not only very attractive, they are extremely diverse, with an underwater ecosystem supporting hundreds of species of fish and marine life, including the Whale Shark and Manta Ray, which makes this yet another important scuba diving site in Thailand.

Source:

MARINE NATIONAL PARK DIVISION
ROYAL FOREST DEPARTMENT

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Shoes should be removed when entering a private Thai home.

Public displays of affection between men and women are frowned upon.

Special Advice :

- Beware of unauthorized people who offer their services as guides. For all tourist information, contact the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Tel : 1672. For information about Bangkok, contact the Bangkok Metropolitan Tourist Bureau, Tel : 0 2225 7612-4.

- Observe all normal precautions as regards to personal safety, as well as the safety of your belongings. Walking alone on quiet streets or deserted areas is not recommended. Be sure that all your valuables-money, jewellery, and airline tickets are properly protected from loss. Visitors needing assistance relating to safety, unethical practices, or other matters, please call the Tourist Police at Tel: 1155.

- Drop your garbage into a waste container. The Bangkok Metropolitan Administration is not strictly enforcing the law in an effort to keep the city clean and healthy. The fine will be imposed on a person who spits, discards cigarette stubs, or drops rubbish in public areas.

- Do not get yourself involved with drugs. Penalties for drug offences are very severe in Thailand.

- Do not support any manner of wild animal abuse. Never purchase any products or souvenirs made from wild animals including reptiles like snakes, monitor lizards, and also turtle shell and ivory. Avoid patronizing local restaurants that serve wild animal delicacies. It is against the law to slaughter wildlife for food in Thailand.